

# On primes $p$ for which $d$ divides $\text{ord}_p(g)$

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## Abstract

Let  $N_g(d)$  be the set of primes  $p$  such that the order of  $g$  modulo  $p$ ,  $\text{ord}_p(g)$ , is divisible by a prescribed integer  $d$ . Wiertelak showed that this set has a natural density,  $\delta_g(d)$ , with  $\delta_g(d) \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ . Let  $N_g(d)(x)$  be the number of primes  $p \leq x$  that are in  $N_g(d)$ . A simple identity for  $N_g(d)(x)$  is established. It is used to derive a more compact expression for  $\delta_g(d)$  than known hitherto.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $g$  be a rational number such that  $g \notin \{-1, 0, 1\}$  (this assumption on  $g$  will be maintained throughout this note). Let  $N_g(d)$  denote the set of primes  $p$  such that the order of  $g(\text{mod } p)$  is divisible by  $d$  (throughout the letter  $p$  will also be used to indicate primes). Let  $N_g(d)(x)$  denote the number of primes in  $N_g(d)$  not exceeding  $x$ . The quantity  $N_g(d)(x)$  (and some variations of it) has been the subject of various publications [1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11–19]. Hasse showed that  $N_g(d)$  has a Dirichlet density in case  $d$  is an odd prime [3], respectively  $d = 2$  [4]. The latter case is of additional interest since  $N_g(2)$  is the set of prime divisors of the sequence  $\{g^k + 1\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ . (One says that an integer divides a sequence if it divides at least one term of the sequence.) Wiertelak [12] established that  $N_g(d)$  has a natural density  $\delta_g(d)$  (around the same time Odoni [9] did so in the case  $d$  is a prime). In a later paper Wiertelak [15] proved, using sophisticated analytic tools, the following result (with  $\text{Li}(x)$  the logarithmic integral and with  $\omega(d) = \sum_{p|d} 1$ ), which gives the best known error term to date.

**Theorem 1** [15]. *We have*

$$N_g(d)(x) = \delta_g(d)\text{Li}(x) + O_{d,g} \left( \frac{x}{\log^3 x} (\log \log x)^{\omega(d)+1} \right).$$

Wiertelak also gave a formula for  $\delta_g(d)$  which shows that this is always a positive rational number. A simpler formula for  $\delta_g(d)$  (in case  $g > 0$ ) has only recently been given by Pappalardi [10]. With some effort Pappalardi's and Wiertelak's

expressions can be shown to be equivalent.

In this note a simple identity for  $N_g(d)(x)$  will be established (given in Proposition 1). From this it is then inferred that  $N_g(d)$  has a natural density  $\delta_g(d)$  that is given by (4), which seems to be the simplest expression involving field degrees known for  $\delta_g(d)$ . This expression is then readily evaluated.

In order to state Theorem 2 some notation is needed. Write  $g = \pm g_0^h$ , where  $g_0$  is positive and not an exact power of a rational and  $h$  as large as possible. Let  $D(g_0)$  denote the discriminant of the field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{g_0})$ . The greatest common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  respectively the lowest common multiple of  $a$  and  $b$  will be denoted by  $(a, b)$ , respectively  $[a, b]$ . Given an integer  $d$ , we denote by  $d^\infty$  the supernatural number (sometimes called Steinitz number),  $\prod_{p|d} p^\infty$ . Note that  $(v, d^\infty) = \prod_{p|d} p^{\nu_p(v)}$ .

**Definition.** Let  $d$  be even and let  $\epsilon_g(d)$  be defined as in Table 1 with  $\gamma = \max\{0, \nu_2(D(g_0)/dh)\}$ .

**Table 1:**  $\epsilon_g(d)$

$g \setminus \gamma$	$\gamma = 0$	$\gamma = 1$	$\gamma = 2$
$g > 0$	$-1/2$	$1/4$	$1/16$
$g < 0$	$1/4$	$-1/2$	$1/16$

Note that  $\gamma \leq 2$ . Also note that  $\epsilon_g(d) = (-1/2)^{2\gamma}$  if  $g > 0$ .

**Theorem 2** *We have*

$$\delta_g(d) = \frac{\epsilon_1}{d(h, d^\infty)} \prod_{p|d} \frac{p^2}{p^2 - 1},$$

with

$$\epsilon_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 2 \nmid d; \\ 1 + 3(1 - \text{sgn}(g))(2^{\nu_2(h)} - 1)/4 & \text{if } 2||d \text{ and } D(g_0) \nmid 4d; \\ 1 + 3(1 - \text{sgn}(g))(2^{\nu_2(h)} - 1)/4 + \epsilon_g(d) & \text{if } 2||d \text{ and } D(g_0)|4d; \\ 1 & \text{if } 4|d, D(g_0) \nmid 4d; \\ 1 + \epsilon_{|g|}(d) & \text{if } 4|d, D(g_0)|4d. \end{cases}$$

In particular, if  $g > 0$ , then

$$\epsilon_1 = \begin{cases} 1 + (-1/2)^{2\max\{0, \nu_2(D(g_0)/dh)\}} & \text{if } 2|d \text{ and } D(g_0)|4d; \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and if  $h$  is odd, then

$$\epsilon_1 = \begin{cases} 1 + (-1/2)^{2\max\{0, \nu_2(D(g)/dh)\}} & \text{if } 2|d \text{ and } D(g)|4d; \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

Using Proposition 1 of Section 2 it is also very easy to infer the following result, valid under the assumption of the Generalized Riemann Hypothesis (GRH).

**Theorem 3** *Under GRH we have*

$$N_g(d)(x) = \delta_g(d)\text{Li}(x) + O_{d,g}(\sqrt{x} \log^{\omega(d)+1} x),$$

where the implied constant depends at most on  $d$  and  $g$ .

In Tables 2 and 3 (Section 6) a numerical demonstration of Theorem 2 is given.

## 2 The key identity

Let  $\pi_L(x)$  denote the number of unramified primes  $p \leq x$  that split completely in the number field  $L$ . For integers  $r|s$  let  $K_{s,r} = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_s, g^{1/r})$ .

The starting point of the proof of Theorem 2 is the following proposition. By  $r_p(g)$  the residual index of  $g$  modulo  $p$  is denoted (we have  $r_p(g) = [\mathbb{F}_p : \langle g \rangle]$ ). Note that  $\text{ord}_p(g)r_p(g) = p - 1$ .

**Proposition 1** *We have  $N_g(d)(x) = \sum_{v|d^\infty} \sum_{\alpha|d} \mu(\alpha) \pi_{K_{dv,\alpha v}}(x)$ .*

*Proof.* Let us consider the quantity  $\sum_{\alpha|d} \mu(\alpha) \pi_{K_{dv,\alpha v}}(x)$ . A prime  $p$  counted by this quantity satisfies  $p \leq x$ ,  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{dv}$  and  $r_p(g) = vw$  for some integer  $w$ . Write  $w = w_1 w_2$ , with  $w_1 = (w, d)$ . Then the contribution of  $p$  to  $\sum_{\alpha|d} \mu(\alpha) \pi_{K_{dv,\alpha v}}(x)$  is  $\sum_{\alpha|w_1} \mu(\alpha)$ . We conclude that

$$\sum_{\alpha|d} \mu(\alpha) \pi_{K_{dv,\alpha v}}(x) = \#\{p \leq x : p \equiv 1 \pmod{dv}, v|r_p(g) \text{ and } (\frac{r_p(g)}{v}, d) = 1\}. \quad (1)$$

It suffices to show that

$$N_g(d)(x) = \sum_{v|d^\infty} \#\{p \leq x : p \equiv 1 \pmod{dv}, v|r_p(g) \text{ and } (\frac{r_p(g)}{v}, d) = 1\}.$$

Let  $p$  be a prime counted on the right hand side. Note that it is counted only once, namely for  $v = (r_p(g), d^\infty)$ . From  $\text{ord}_p(g)r_p(g) = p - 1$  it is then inferred that  $d|\text{ord}_p(g)$ . Hence every prime counted on the right hand side is counted on the left hand side as well. Next consider a prime  $p$  counted by  $N_g(d)(x)$ . It satisfies  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{d}$ . Note there is a (unique) integer  $v$  such that  $v|d^\infty$ ,  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{dv}$  and  $(r_p(g)/v, d) = 1$ . Thus  $p$  is also counted on the right hand side.  $\square$

**Remark 1.** From (1) and Chebotarev's density theorem it follows that

$$0 \leq \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)}{[K_{dv,\alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]} \leq \frac{1}{[K_{dv,v} : \mathbb{Q}]}. \quad (2)$$

## 3 Analytic consequences

Using Proposition 1 it is rather straightforward to establish that  $N_g(d)$  has a natural density  $\delta_g(d)$ .

**Lemma 1** *Write  $g = g_1/g_2$  with  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  integers. Then*

$$N_g(d)(x) = \left( \delta_g(d) + O_{d,g} \left( \frac{(\log \log x)^{\omega(d)}}{\log^{1/8} x} \right) \right) \text{Li}(x), \quad (3)$$

where the implied constant depends at most on  $d$  and  $g$  and

$$\delta_g(d) = \sum_{v|d^\infty} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)}{[K_{dv,\alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]}. \quad (4)$$

**Corollary 1** *The set  $N_g(d)$  has a natural density  $\delta_g(d)$ .*

The proof of Lemma 1 makes use of the following consequence of the Brun-Titchmarsh inequality.

**Lemma 2** *Let  $\pi(x; l, k) = \sum_{p \leq x, p \equiv l \pmod{k}} 1$ . Then*

$$\sum_{\substack{v > z \\ v|d^\infty}} \pi(x; dv, 1) = O_d \left( \frac{x}{\log x} \frac{(\log z)^{\omega(d)}}{z} \right),$$

*uniformly for  $3 \leq z \leq \sqrt{x}$ .*

*Proof.* On noting that  $M_d(x) := \#\{v \leq x : v|d^\infty\} \leq (\log x)^{\omega(d)}/\log 2$ , it straightforwardly follows that

$$\sum_{\substack{v > z \\ v|d^\infty}} \frac{1}{v} = \int_z^\infty \frac{dM_d(z)}{z} \ll_d \frac{(\log z)^{\omega(d)}}{z}.$$

By the Brun-Titchmarsh inequality we have  $\pi(x; w, 1) \ll x/(\varphi(w) \log(x/w))$ , where the implied constant is absolute and  $w < x$ . Thus

$$\sum_{\substack{z < v, dv \leq x^{2/3} \\ v|d^\infty}} \pi(x; dv, 1) \ll \frac{x}{\varphi(d) \log x} \sum_{\substack{v > z \\ v|d^\infty}} \frac{1}{v} \ll_d \frac{x}{\log x} \frac{(\log z)^{\omega(d)}}{z}. \quad (5)$$

Using the trivial estimate  $\pi(x; d, 1) \leq x/d$  we see that

$$\sum_{\substack{dv > x^{2/3} \\ d|v^\infty}} \pi(x; dv, 1) \leq \sum_{\substack{dv > x^{2/3} \\ v|d^\infty}} \frac{x}{dv} \leq \sum_{\substack{w > x^{2/3} \\ w|d^\infty}} \frac{x}{w} \ll_d x^{1/3} (\log x)^{\omega(d)}. \quad (6)$$

On combining (5) and (6) the proof is readily completed.  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 1.* From [10, Lemma 2.1] we recall that there exist absolute constants  $A$  and  $B$  such that if  $v \leq B(\log x)^{1/8}/d$ , then

$$\pi_{K_{dv, \alpha v}}(x) = \frac{\text{Li}(x)}{[K_{dv, \alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]} + O_g(xe^{-\frac{A}{dv}\sqrt{\log x}}). \quad (7)$$

Let  $y = B(\log x)^{1/8}/d$ . From the proof of Proposition 1 we see that

$$N_g(d)(x) = \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ v \leq y}} \sum_{\alpha|d} \mu(\alpha) \pi_{K_{dv, \alpha v}}(x) + O \left( \sum_{\substack{v > y \\ v|d^\infty}} \pi(x; dv, 1) \right) = I_1 + O(I_2),$$

say. By Lemma 2 we obtain that  $I_2 = O(x(\log \log x)^{\omega(d)} \log^{-9/8} x)$ . Now, by (7), we obtain

$$I_1 = \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ v \leq y}} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)}{[K_{dv, \alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]} + O_{d,g}(y \frac{x}{\log^{5/4} x}).$$

Denote the latter double sum by  $I_3$ . Keeping in mind Remark 1 we obtain

$$I_3 = \delta_g(d) + O\left(\sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ v>y}} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)}{[K_{dv,\alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]}\right).$$

Using (2) and Lemma 3 it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ v>y}} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)}{[K_{dv,\alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]} &= O\left(\sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ v>y}} \frac{1}{[K_{dv,v} : \mathbb{Q}]}\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{\varphi(d)} \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ v>y}} \frac{h}{v^2}\right) \\ &= O_d\left(\frac{h(\log y)^{\omega(d)}}{y}\right) = O_{d,g}\left(\frac{(\log y)^{\omega(d)}}{y}\right), \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$I_3 = \delta_g(d) + O_{d,g}\left(\frac{(\log y)^{\omega(d)}}{y}\right).$$

The result follows on collecting the various estimates.  $\square$

## 4 The evaluation of the density $\delta_g(d)$

A crucial ingredient in the evaluation of  $\delta_g(d)$  is the following lemma.

**Lemma 3** [6]. *Write  $g = \pm g_0^h$ , where  $g_0$  is positive and not an exact power of a rational. Let  $D(g_0)$  denote the discriminant of the field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{g_0})$ . Put  $m = D(g_0)/2$  if  $\nu_2(h) = 0$  and  $D(g_0) \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$  or  $\nu_2(h) = 1$  and  $D(g_0) \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ , and  $m = [2^{\nu_2(h)+2}, D(g_0)]$  otherwise. Put*

$$n_r = \begin{cases} m & \text{if } g < 0 \text{ and } r \text{ is odd;} \\ [2^{\nu_2(hr)+1}, D(g_0)] & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have

$$[K_{kr,k} : \mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{kr}, g^{1/k}) : \mathbb{Q}] = \frac{\varphi(kr)k}{\epsilon(kr, k)(k, h)},$$

where, for  $g > 0$  or  $g < 0$  and  $r$  even we have

$$\epsilon(kr, k) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n_r | kr; \\ 1 & \text{if } n_r \nmid kr, \end{cases}$$

and for  $g < 0$  and  $r$  odd we have

$$\epsilon(kr, k) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n_r | kr; \\ \frac{1}{2} & \text{if } 2 | k \text{ and } 2^{\nu_2(h)+1} \nmid k; \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Remark.** Note that if  $h$  is odd, then  $n_r = [2^{\nu_2(r)+1}, D(g)]$ . Note that  $n_r = n_{\nu_2(r)}$ .

The ‘generic’ degree of  $[K_{dv,\alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]$  equals  $\varphi(dv)\alpha v/(\alpha v, h)$  and on substituting this value in (4) we obtain the quantity  $S_1$  which is evaluated in the following lemma.

**Lemma 4** *We have*

$$S_1 := \sum_{v|d^\infty} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)(\alpha v, h)}{\varphi(dv)\alpha v} = S(d, h),$$

where

$$S(d, h) := \frac{1}{d(h, d^\infty)} \prod_{p|d} \frac{p^2}{p^2 - 1}.$$

*Proof.* Since for  $v|d^\infty$  we have  $\varphi(dv) = v\varphi(d)$ , we can write

$$S_1 = \frac{1}{\varphi(d)} \sum_{v|d^\infty} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)(\alpha v, h)}{\alpha v^2} = \frac{1}{\varphi(d)} \sum_{v|d^\infty} \frac{(v, h)}{v^2} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)(\alpha v, h)}{\alpha(v, h)}.$$

The expression in the inner sum is multiplicative in  $\alpha$  and hence

$$\sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)(\alpha v, h)}{\alpha(v, h)} = \prod_{p|d} \left( 1 - \frac{(pv, h)}{p(v, h)} \right) = \begin{cases} \frac{\varphi(d)}{d} & \text{if } (h, d^\infty)|(v, d^\infty); \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

On noting that  $(v, h)/v^2$  is multiplicative in  $v$  and that for  $k \geq \nu_p(h)$

$$\sum_{r=k}^{\infty} \frac{(p^r, h)}{p^{2r}} = \frac{p^{\nu_p(h)+2-2k}}{p^2 - 1},$$

one concludes that

$$S_1 = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ (h, d^\infty)|v}} \frac{(v, h)}{v^2} = \frac{1}{d} \prod_{p|d} \sum_{r \geq \nu_p(h)} \frac{(p^r, h)}{p^{2r}} = \frac{1}{d} \prod_{p|d} \frac{p^{2-\nu_p(h)}}{p^2 - 1} = S(d, h).$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark.** Note that the condition  $(h, d^\infty)|(v, d^\infty)$  is equivalent with  $\nu_p(v) \geq \nu_p(h)$  for all primes  $p$  dividing  $d$ .

By a minor modification of the proof of the latter result we infer:

**Lemma 5** *Let  $k \geq 0$  be an integer. Then*

$$S_2(k) := \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ \nu_2(v) \geq \nu_2(h)+k}} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)(\alpha v, h)}{\varphi(dv)\alpha v} = 4^{-k} S(d, h).$$

The next lemma gives an evaluation of yet another variant of  $S_1$ .

**Lemma 6** *Let  $D$  be a fundamental discriminant. Then*

$$S_3(D) := \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ [2^{\nu_2(hd/\alpha)+1}, D]|dv}} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)(\alpha v, h)}{\varphi(dv)\alpha v} = \begin{cases} 4^{-\gamma} S(d, h) & \text{if } 2|d, D|4d \text{ and } \gamma \geq 1; \\ -\frac{S(d, h)}{2} & \text{if } 2|d, D|4d \text{ and } \gamma = 0; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $\gamma = \max\{0, \nu_2(D/dh)\}$ .

*Proof.* The integer  $[2^{\nu_2(hd/\alpha)+1}, D]$  is even and is required to divide  $d^\infty$ , hence  $S_3(D) = 0$  if  $d$  is odd. Assume that  $d$  is even. If  $D$  has an odd prime divisor not dividing  $d$ , then  $D \nmid d^\infty$  and hence  $S_3(D) = 0$ . On noting that  $\nu_2(D) \leq \nu_2(4d)$  and that the odd part of  $D$  is squarefree, it follows that if  $S_3(D) \neq 0$ , then  $D|4d$ . So assume that  $2|d$  and  $D|4d$ . Note that the condition  $[2^{\nu_2(hd/\alpha)+1}, D]|dv$  is equivalent with  $\nu_2(v) \geq \nu_2(h) + \max\{1, \nu_2(D/dh)\}$  for the  $\alpha$  that are odd, and  $\nu_2(v) \geq \nu_2(h) + \gamma$  for the even  $\alpha$ . Thus if  $\gamma \geq 1$  the condition  $[2^{\nu_2(hd/\alpha)+1}, D]|dv$  is equivalent with  $\nu_2(v) \geq \nu_2(h) + \gamma$  and then, by Lemma 5,  $S_3(D) = S_2(\gamma) = 4^{-\gamma}S(d, h)$ . If  $\gamma = 0$  then

$$S_3(D) = S_2(0) - \sum_{\substack{v|d^\infty \\ \nu_2(v)=\nu_2(h)}} \sum_{\substack{\alpha|d \\ 2 \nmid \alpha}} \frac{\mu(\alpha)(\alpha v, h)}{\varphi(dv)\alpha v}.$$

By Lemma 5 it follows that  $S_2(0) = S(d, h)$ . A variation of Lemma 4 yields that the latter double sum equals  $3S(d, h)/2$ .  $\square$

**Remark.** Put

$$\epsilon_2(D) = \begin{cases} (-1/2)^{2^{\max\{0, \nu_2(D/dh)\}}} & \text{if } 2|d \text{ and } D|4d; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Note that Lemma 6 can be rephrased as stating that if  $D$  is a fundamental discriminant, then  $S_3(D) = \epsilon_2(D)S(d, h)$ .

Let  $g > 0$ . It turns out that  $\text{ord}_p(g)$  is very closely related to  $\text{ord}_p(-g)$  and this can be used to express  $N_{-g}(d)(x)$  in terms of  $N_g(*) (x)$ . From this  $\delta_{-g}(d)$  is then easily evaluated, once one has evaluated  $\delta_g(d)$ .

**Lemma 7** *Let  $g > 0$ . Then*

$$N_{-g}(d)(x) = \begin{cases} N_g(\frac{d}{2})(x) + N_g(2d)(x) - N_g(d)(x) + O(1) & \text{if } d \equiv 2 \pmod{4}; \\ N_g(d)(x) + O(1) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*In particular,*

$$\delta_{-g}(d) = \begin{cases} \delta_g(\frac{d}{2}) + \delta_g(2d) - \delta_g(d) & \text{if } d \equiv 2 \pmod{4}; \\ \delta_g(d) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The proof of this lemma is a consequence of Corollary 1 and the following observation.

**Lemma 8** *Let  $p$  be odd and  $g \neq 0$  be a rational number. Suppose that  $\nu_p(g) = 0$ . Then*

$$\text{ord}_p(-g) = \begin{cases} 2\text{ord}_p(g) & \text{if } 2 \nmid \text{ord}_p(g); \\ \text{ord}_p(g)/2 & \text{if } \text{ord}_p(g) \equiv 2 \pmod{4}; \\ \text{ord}_p(g) & \text{if } 4|\text{ord}_p(g). \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Left to the reader.  $\square$

**Remark.** It is of course also possible to evaluate  $\delta_g(d)$  for negative  $g$  using the expression (4) and Lemma 3, however, this turns out to be rather more cumbersome than proceeding as above.

## 5 The proofs of Theorems 2 and 3

*Proof of Theorem 2.* By Lemma 1 it suffices to show that

$$\sum_{v|d^\infty} \sum_{\alpha|d} \frac{\mu(\alpha)}{[K_{dv,\alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]} = \epsilon_1 S(d, h)$$

If  $g > 0$ , then it follows by Lemma 3 that  $\delta_g(d) = S_1 + S_3(D(g_0))$  and by Lemmas 4 and 6 (with  $D = D(g_0)$ ), the claimed evaluation then results in this case. If  $h$  is odd, then similarly,  $\delta_g(d) = S_1 + S_3(D(g))$  (cf. the remark following Lemma 3) and, again by Lemma 4 and 6, the claimed evaluation then is deduced in this case. If  $g < 0$ , the result follows after some computation on invoking Lemma 7 and the result for  $g > 0$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 3.* Recall that  $\pi_L(x)$  denotes the number of unramified primes  $p \leq x$  that split completely in the number field  $L$ . Under GRH it is known, cf. [5], that

$$\pi_L(x) = \frac{\text{Li}(x)}{[L : \mathbb{Q}]} + O\left(\frac{\sqrt{x}}{[L : \mathbb{Q}]} \log(d_L x^{[L:\mathbb{Q}]})\right),$$

where  $d_L$  denotes the absolute discriminant of  $L$ . From this it follows on using the estimate  $\log |d_{K_{dv_1, \alpha v}}| \leq dv(\log(dv) + \log |g_1 g_2|)$  from [6] that, uniformly in  $v$ ,

$$\pi_{K_{dv, \alpha v}}(x) = \frac{\text{Li}(x)}{[K_{dv, \alpha v} : \mathbb{Q}]} + O_{d,g}(\sqrt{x} \log x),$$

where  $\alpha$  is an arbitrary divisor of  $d$ . On noting that in Proposition 1 we can restrict to those integers  $v$  satisfying  $dv \leq x$  and hence the number of non-zero terms in Proposition 1 is bounded above by  $2^{\omega(d)}(\log x)^{\omega(d)}$ , the result easily follows.  $\square$

## 6 Some examples

In this section we provide some numerical demonstration of our results.

The numbers in the column ‘experimental’ arose on counting how many primes  $p \leq p_{10^8} = 2038074743$  with  $\nu_p(g) = 0$ , satisfy  $d | \text{ord}_p(g)$ .

**Table 2:** The case  $g > 0$

$g$	$g_0$	$h$	$D(g_0)$	$d$	$\epsilon_1$	$\delta_g(d)$	numerical	experimental
2	2	1	8	2	17/16	17/24	0.70833333...	0.70831919
2	2	1	8	4	5/4	5/12	0.41666666...	0.41667021
2	2	1	8	8	1/2	1/12	0.08333333...	0.08333144
3	3	1	12	11	1	11/120	0.09166666...	0.09165950
3	3	1	12	12	1/2	1/16	0.06250000...	0.06249098
4	2	2	8	5	1	5/24	0.20833333...	0.20833328
4	2	2	8	6	5/4	5/32	0.15625000...	0.15625824



**Table 3:** The case  $g < 0$ 

$g$	$g_0$	$h$	$D(g_0)$	$d$	$\epsilon_1$	$\delta_g(d)$	numerical	experimental
-2	3	1	8	2	17/16	17/24	0.70833333...	0.70835101
-2	2	1	8	4	5/4	5/12	0.41666666...	0.41667021
-2	2	1	8	6	17/16	17/64	0.26562500...	0.26562628
-3	3	1	12	5	1	5/24	0.20833333...	0.20834107
-3	3	1	12	12	1/2	1/16	0.06250000...	0.06249098
-4	2	2	8	2	2	2/3	0.66666666...	0.66666122
-4	2	2	8	4	1/2	1/8	0.08333333...	0.08333144
-9	3	2	12	2	5/2	5/6	0.83333333...	0.83333215
-9	3	2	12	6	11/4	11/32	0.34375000...	0.34375638

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